

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 10, 2006. Claims 1 to 15 and 21 to 30 are in the application, with Claims 16 to 20 having been cancelled herein. Claims 1, 6, 11, 21 and 26 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 3, 6 to 8, 11 to 13 and 16 to 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,330,071 (Vidyanand) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,006,281 (Edmunds). Claims 4, 9, 14 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Vidyanand and Edmunds in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,020,973 (Levine). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Turning to the specific language of the claims, independent Claim 1 defines an information processing apparatus. The apparatus includes a displaying unit adapted to display a display screen on an external apparatus, and a selection unit adapted to select a predetermined record of variable data in accordance with a selection via the display screen. The displaying unit displays a preview by using the predetermined record of variable data selected by the selecting unit. The apparatus also includes a generation unit adapted to generate, in response to a request from the external apparatus, print data corresponding to the preview displayed on the display screen on the external apparatus, and an obtaining unit adapted to obtain instructions for printing via the display screen. The apparatus also includes a transmission control unit adapted to control transmission so that the print data generated by said generation unit is transmitted to a print server in response to the obtaining unit for obtaining instructions for printing.

Independent Claims 6, 11, 21 and 26 are system, method, computer-readable medium and computer-executable program claims, respectively, that correspond generally to the apparatus of Claim 1.

The applied references are not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of independent Claims 1, 6, 11, 21 and 26, and in particular, are not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of selecting a predetermined record of variable data in accordance with a selection via a display screen, wherein a preview is displayed by using the predetermined record of variable data selected by the selecting unit, and that print data corresponding to the preview is transmitted to a print server in response to an obtaining unit (Claims 1 and 6), or an obtaining step (Claims 11, 21 and 26), for obtaining instructions for printing.

Vidyanand is seen to disclose a variable print job system that reduces a master and variable jobs into a single job sent from a client to a printer. (abstract of Vidyanand). Edmunds is seen to disclose a printing subsystem for use in a networking printing system, in which an interface communicates with a program copy for converting data sets from a displayable format to a printable format. (abstract of Edmunds). However, neither Vidyanand nor Edmunds is seen to disclose or to suggest selecting a predetermined record of variable data in accordance with a selection via a display screen, wherein a preview is displayed by using the predetermined record of variable data selected by the selecting unit, and that print data corresponding to the preview is transmitted to a print server in response to an obtaining unit, or an obtaining step, for obtaining instructions for printing. Accordingly, independent Claims 1, 6, 11, 21 and 26 are believed to be allowable.

The other claims in the application are dependent from the independent claims discussed above and therefore are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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